



NEWS RELEASE

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**Man Pleads No Contest to Hit-and-Run
Death of 101-Year-Old Pedestrian**

A 41-year-old man pleaded no contest today to running over and killing a 101-year-old pedestrian in Boyle Heights, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Ricardo Avalos of Los Angeles entered his plea to one felony count of hit-and-run driving resulting in death and one misdemeanor count of vehicular manslaughter just as jury selection was slated to begin in his trial. He was immediately sentenced to three years in state prison.

Prosecutors said Avalos was driving a van around 6 a.m. on Oct. 1, 2014 when he struck and killed 101-year-old Jose Noriega as he walked across Lorena Street in a marked crosswalk. Avalos then drove away.

A motorist who witnessed the collision then followed Avalos, cutting off the van. Another driver also assisted by grabbing the defendant's keys.

Case BA429997 was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.